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S/N 09/843,250

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Rebecca Paraless et al.

Examiner: Delia M Ramirez

Serial No.: 09/843,250

Group Art Unit: 1652

Filed: April 26, 2001

Docket: 875.006US2

Title: NOVEL NAPHTHALENE DIOXYGENASE AND METHODS FOR THEIR USE

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

RECEIVED

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

In response to the new Restriction Requirement mailed November 1, 2002, Applicants elect Group I (claims 1-12 and 30-37), with traverse. The claims of Group I are drawn in part to an NDO complex comprising the alpha subunit as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, 32, 33, 34, 35 or 36, classified in class 435, subclass 190. Applicants respectfully point out that claim 30 also reads on the elected invention, and should be included in Group I.

This election is made with traverse, as Applicants maintain that a 30-way restriction requirement is excessive and places an undue burden on Applicants. Applicants assert that the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden to the Examiner. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to examine the entire application on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions. M.P.E.P. §803.

Applicants respectfully request a favorable examination of the merits of this patent application. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' attorney (612-349-9580) to facilitate prosecution of this application. Please charge any additional fees deemed necessary to Deposit Account 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

REBECCA PARALES ET AL.

By their Representatives,

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Date

Dec 13, 2002

By

Patti J. Jurkovich

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 13 day of December, 2002.

Candis B. Buending

Name

Signature

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